UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT — JFK Exhibit F-466

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: November 25, 1963

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT John F. Kennedy

Guthman of the Department called at approximately 3:00 p.m. He stated that the Attorney General of the State of Texas was having a press conference this afternoon in Washington and would undoubtedly indicate to the press that the State of Texas would convene a Board of Inquiry into the assassination of the President and the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald. Guthman stated that the Department had to prepare to answer a large number of inquiries which they undoubtedly will receive following the State Attorney General's press conference. Guthman then read to me the following proposed release he plans to make:

"President Johnson has directed the FBI to investigate every lead and every shred of evidence in the assassination of President Kennedy and the shooting of Oswald. A full report on the FBI's findings in the assassination of President Kennedy will be made public. All evidence in the shooting of Oswald will be made available to local authorities in Dallas who will have responsibility for the trial of Jack Ruby. The Department of Justice, of course, will lend whatever assistance it can to any properly constituted Texas Court of Inquiry."

Guthman asked me what I thought of the release. I told him I disagreed with the plan to make a release. I mentioned that everything had already been said in the release which was made last night and, therefore, there was no further need to state anything else. I told him that it would be far better to wait until the FBI had procured all facts in the matter and had submitted an investigative report. I told Guthman that it was particularly bad that he wanted to make the statement that, "All evidence in the shooting of Oswald will be made available to local authorities in Dallas who will have responsibility for the trial of Jack Ruby." I mentioned that despite the truthfulness of this statement it will invite criticism. Many responsible individuals across the Nation are pointing to the inefficiency of the Dallas Police Department and a statement of this nature will merely add fuel to the fire. "I

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Jones
1 - Mr. Morrell

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DeLoach to Mohr 11-25-63
Re: Assassination of the President

Guthman stated he would remove the statement at once, however, wanted to go ahead and make the remaining statements. I told him I still disagreed, that there appeared to be no need whatsoever for any further press releases to be made by the Department. I told him that I, personally, believe that he should answer inquiries in the matter. He replied that he would think over the objections in question.

After talking with the Director, I called Guthman back and told him I wanted to reiterate my objections in the above regard. Guthman stated he had given the matter further thought and in view of FBI objections would not issue a press release but merely would answer inquiries. I told him I thought this was highly advisable.

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